

BAR HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
AMENDED MINUTES- REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 20, 2009

**ITEM 1**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm. Present were: Jill Weber, Enoch Albert, Anne Wheeler, Carla Haskel, Cynthia Ocel, Anne Krieg, and Lauren Suerth, the Planning Intern.

**ITEM 3**

**EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Mary Anne Handel and Patrick Watson were excused from the meeting.

**ITEM 3**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

*Carla moves to accept the minutes; Enoch seconds the motion with a correction to remove "Star" from the phrase "Island Astronomy Star Institute." All were in favor of the motion.*

**ITEM 4**

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Enoch moves, with a second from Cynthia, to adopt the agenda. All were in favor of the motion.*

**ITEM 5**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Jill turns the meeting over to Anne Krieg.

*Anne Krieg opens nominations for Chair. Carla nominates Jill; Anne Wheeler seconds the motion. All were in favor of the motion.*

Anne Krieg turns the meeting back over to Jill.

*Jill opens nominations for Vice Chair. Anne Wheeler nominates Carla; Jill seconds the motion. All were in favor of the motion.*

*Jill opens nominations for Secretary. Enoch nominates Anne Wheeler; Cynthia seconds the motion. All were in favor of the motion.*

**ITEM 6**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**-DARK SKIES: Update from Patrick on Night Sky Fest tour.** Since Patrick is absent, Jill provided a brief update and information on the tour. She explained that the Commission is organizing tours of green buildings, and a tour of Northeast Creek. Jill clarified the dates of the festival: September 17- 21.

Carla asked about the article in the Bar Harbor Times that quoted Jill about the Cottage Street lamp posts and the Dark Sky issue. Jill explained the situation and the context of the quotation in the article.

Anne Krieg explained Town Council goal setting and the budget constraints associated with Dark Skies.

The Commission discussed existing lighting fixtures in the Downtown Village District, specifically Main Street. Carla volunteers to research Dark Sky compliant lighting fixtures.

***Cynthia moves that in response to the requirement of Cottage Street businesses, the Conservation Commission supports the use of Dark Sky friendly lighting to any future improvements to Bar Harbor street lighting, and offers assistance with finding Victorian style lighting. Anne Wheeler seconds the motion. All were in favor of the motion.***

**-SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING: Field trips, video, signage.** Enoch provided an update on the field trips. Cynthia suggested involving Pemetic Elementary School students. Carla suggested a joint field trip with Sustainable Ellsworth. The Commission agreed that the field trip should occur in September around 3 or 4 pm. Enoch will continue communications with Southwest Harbor recycling.

Jill told the Commission that she spoke with Karen Zimmerman regarding the signage, but is now questioning the use of digital signage. She asked if anyone from the Commission is interested in meeting with Karen at the Bar Harbor Transfer Station. Carla and Cynthia volunteer. The Commission agreed to invite Chip Reeves to the meeting.

The Commission decided to research examples and develop an idea of what they want before they meet with Karen. Enoch volunteered to contact Maine Resource Recovery. Jill will continue communications with Karen.

Jill stated that the video is complete. It will be aired on the Dobbs channel, which Anne Krieg will coordinate. The Commission will watch the video at their next meeting.

Cynthia suggested showing the video during intermission at Reel Pizza. Jill suggests showing it before the previews. The Commission supports both of these ideas.

Enoch informed the Commission that he was approached by a citizen regarding the water quality at the creek near the Transfer Station. The citizen complained that the water smells bad, and is filled with black sediment.

Anne Wheeler said that she will contact Jane Disney about water testing.

Jill identified the Commission's desire to conduct annual water quality testing. Anne Krieg explained that the Park and Town are testing the water often, but she is not sure of the outcome of that testing. She also stated that the Cruise Ship Safety Task Force (CSSTF) will continue to test water near cruise ships with the MDI Bio Lab.

Anne Krieg suggested that the Commission include annual water quality testing through the MDI Bio Lab in their formal budget under the “Healthy Beaches” line item.

**-RESULTS OF 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY SURVEY.** Carla and Cynthia report the outcome of the survey. Jill suggested that they work together to create a list of their results. The document will be a reference for future recycling conversations and initiatives.

Anne Wheeler suggested “solid waste/ recycling” as the topic of the summit, and using the results of the survey to determine specific focuses.

Anne Krieg stated that the Town does not have a record of recycling rates, but explained that the Town maintains records of total recycling tonnage.

The Commission discussed specific ways to involve the Mount Desert Island High School and the College of the Atlantic in municipal recycling efforts.

**-INTERN PROJECT STATUS.** Lauren provided an update on the following projects: Northeast Creek mailing, Vernal Pools, and Scenic Byway Assessment.

Anne Krieg informed the Commission that many people read the brochure. Jill wants the Commission to keep in touch with the woman inquiring about pervious pavement. Carla stated that Ellsworth has a zero storm water runoff ordinance.

The Commission informed Lauren that she will work with them to update the “Beginning of Habitat” map, and plan the Summit.

**-FINALIZE WORK PLAN.** Jill and Anne Krieg explained the purpose of the work plan. Jill suggested that the Commission present their work plan to the Planning Board at their meeting on August 19, 2009, and to the Town Council at their meeting in the beginning of September.

The Commission agrees to look over the draft of the work plan in relation to the Comprehensive Plan implementation timeline, which was provided in their packet. They will finalize the work plan at their next meeting.

## **ITEM 7**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**-COUNCIL UPDATE/ STAFF REPORT.** Anne Krieg informed the Commission about the Town Council’s goal setting process. Planning Staff will provide the Commission with a copy of the “LEAD” agency implementation schedule to aid the development of their work plan.

**-CONSERVATION SUMMIT 2009 PLANNING.** Jill confirmed that solid waste/ recycling will be the topic of the summit. Carla suggested that the Commission look at old notes to help plan this year’s event.

The Commission discussed the time, place and format of the Summit. They agreed on holding the Summit in October at the Mount Desert High School, and having a moderator. Enoch suggested a different seating arrangement, turning off the cafeteria machines, and using a PA system.

Members suggested the following speakers or topics:

- Eco Maine
- Ellsworth conservation related committees
- Lamoine
- Erica Schriener- island-wide ban on polystyrene
- Composting- case study on a successful municipal composting operation

Jill asked the members to make notes on tonight's discussion, and come to the next meeting with specific suggestions for the date, time and length of the Summit.

Enoch inquired about the Bar Harbor Annual Improvement meeting hosted by the Village Improvement Association. Anne Krieg explained their focus and clarified that they are a private non-profit association.

#### **ITEM 8**

##### **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

- Dark Skies: update from Patrick on Night Sky Fest tour
- Solid waste/recycling: field trips, video, signage
- Finalize work plan
- Conservation Summit 2009 Planning
- Staff reports
- Intern project status

#### **ITEM 9**

##### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

These minutes were prepared by Planning Department Intern, Lauren Suerth, for review at the August 10, 2009 Conservation Commission Meeting.

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Anne Wheeler  
Conservation Commission Secretary

Date